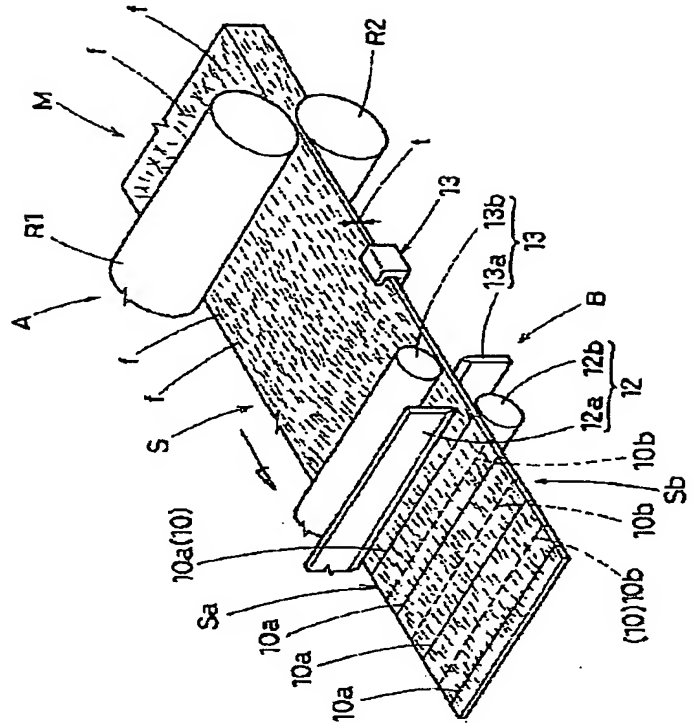


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APPLICANT : SUMITOMO RUBBER IND LTD;
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TITLE : METHOD FOR PRODUCING
PNEUMATIC TIRE



ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a method for producing a pneumatic tire which can orient short fibers in tread rubber easily in the radius direction of the tire.

SOLUTION: An unvulcanized rubber material M containing the short fibers f is extruded to form a rubber sheet S in which the fibers f are oriented substantially in the extrusion direction. Notches 10, the depth of which is smaller than the thickness of the sheet S, are formed approximately perpendicularly to the extrusion direction and in the thickness direction of the sheet S alternately in one surface Sa and the other surface Sb of the sheet S. The sheet S is folded in the direction to spread the notches 10, and the surfaces Sa, Sb are laid to overlap each other to be laminated. In this way, a raw tread rubber body in which the fibers f are oriented in the thickness direction is formed. With the use of the tread rubber body, a raw cover in which the fibers f are oriented approximately in the radius direction of the tire is formed and vulcanized.

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